



ELMORE COUNTY PROFILE

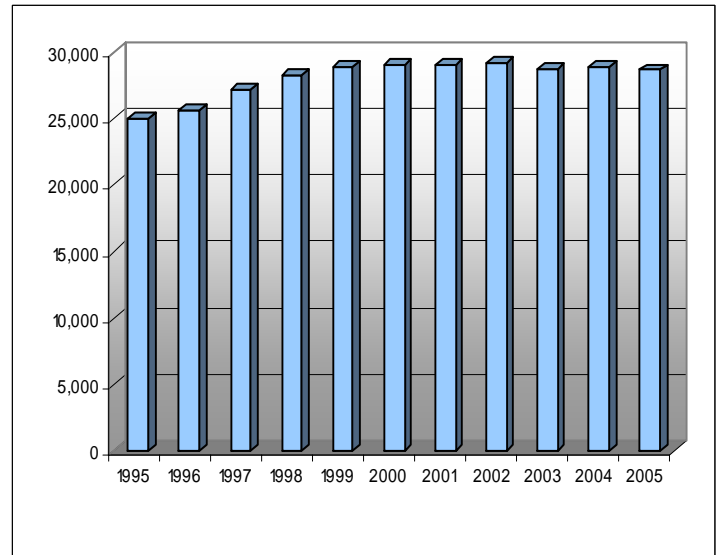
Prepared by John Panter, Regional Economist, Idaho Commerce & Labor
205 E. Watertower Lane, Meridian, Idaho 83642 — (208) 364-7785, ext. 3599

E-Mail: jpanter@cl.idaho.gov — Labor Market Information website: cl.idaho.gov/lmi

June 2006

Population

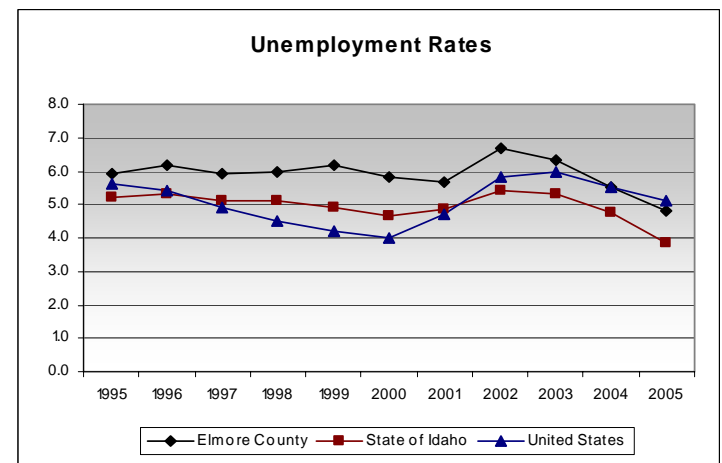
Elmore County is ranked 14th in population and is the 6th largest of Idaho's 44 counties. Seventy-two percent of the county is federally owned. The population of Elmore County grew steadily from 1995 to 2003 when the county actually lost 501 residents. The population rebounded a little in 2004 but declined again in 2005. Over the last decade Elmore County's population did grow by 3,582 people from a population of 25,052 in 1995 to 28,634 in 2005. Despite the population declines in 2003 and again in 2005, the population of Elmore County still grew by a respectable 14.3 percent over the ten year period. Elmore county is home to the Mountain Home Air Force Base located in the southwestern corner of the county, which is home to a significant number of military personnel and their families.



Labor Force & Employment

Despite the slowed growth in the Elmore County population in 2003 and 2005, the growth of the *Civilian Labor Force* has not slowed at all. The *Civilian Labor Force* of Elmore County grew by 2,407 individuals, or 28.5 percent, over the years 1995 to 2005. This is significant because the population only increased by 14.3 percent over the same time period. With a better economy in southwest Idaho more people that were previously discouraged workers have been motivated to enter the labor force as well as have retired military personnel. As a result, the labor force figures have really grown. The unemployment rate has fluctuated from a ten year high of 6.7 percent in 2002 to a low of 4.8 percent in 2005. The labor force of Elmore County is unique in that it is home to the Air Base. The military personnel at the Mountain Home Air Force Base are not counted in the civilian labor force, therefore, there may be more persons actually in the labor force than the numbers indicate.

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs in Elmore County increased by 990 jobs, or 18.2 percent, in the past decade. All but three sectors of the Elmore County economy added jobs over the ten year period 1993 to 2003. *Education and Health Services* led the way with a

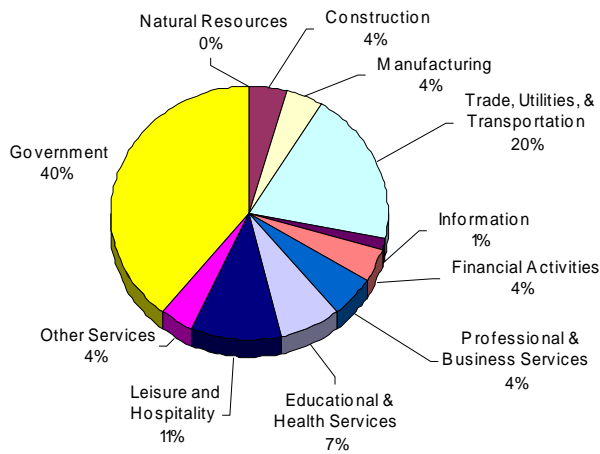


121% increase in jobs. Following this sector was *Leisure and Hospitality* with a gain of 46.7% in new jobs added over the last ten years. *Government* added a significant number of new jobs as well topping 2,400 jobs within Elmore County. *Construction* activity both residential and nonresidential has been quite robust with nearly 40 building permits being issued each month in Mountain Home alone. Many new construction projects are at the Air Force Base as a complete overhaul of military housing is currently underway. Also a new power plant was recently constructed and a new hotel is currently underway too. The region's rich agricultural base and easy access to both roadways and railways provide potential opportunities for future growth in both durable and nondurable goods manufacturing.

Labor Force	May 2005	May 2006
Civilian Labor Force	10,966	11,096
Total Employment	10,408	10,563
Unemployed	559	533
Elmore County % Unemployed	5.1	4.8
State of Idaho % Unemployed	3.9	3.4
U.S. % Unemployed	5.1	4.7

Labor Force	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Civilian Labor Force	8,459	8,724	8,936	9,212	9,236	10,573	10,902	10,842	10,569	10,591	10,866
Unemployment	495	540	531	549	570	615	619	725	671	586	523
% of Labor Force Unemployed	5.9	6.2	5.9	6.0	6.2	5.8	5.7	6.7	6.3	5.5	4.8
Employment	7,964	8,184	8,405	8,663	8,666	9,958	10,283	10,116	9,899	10,006	10,343

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2004



Per Capita Income & Employment

Elmore County ranks 14th in terms of per capita income in the state at \$24,499 which is below the state average of \$26,877 and the national average of \$33,050.

The majority of jobs in the county are in *Trade, Utilities and Transportation*, and *Government*, with average wages for these industries at \$20,169 and \$25,859, respectively. The Mountain Home Air Force Base, located in Mountain Home, has a large number of civilian employees, and there are a number of support occupations in the area that support workers on and around the base.

Major Employers

AJ's
Albertsons, Inc
City of Mountain Home
Three Springs Inc
Elmore County
Mountain Home Ford, Lincoln, Mercury
Glenns Ferry School District
Moxie Java
Mountain Home Air Force Base
Mountain Home School District
Wal-Mart
Idaho Fresh-Pak Inc

Occupational Wages*

Starting Wage

Occupational Wages*	Starting Wage
Bookkeeper	\$9.00
Cashier/Counter Clerk	\$6.35
Construction Laborer	\$9.00
Cook	\$7.45
Delivery Driver	\$7.50
General Farm Laborer	\$5.25
General Laborer	\$8.00
General Office Clerk	\$8.15
Groundskeeper	\$7.50

* Additional Occupational Wage data can be found on the Idaho Commerce & Labor website at cl.idaho.gov/lmi.

Covered Employment & Average Annual Wages Per Job for 1994, 2003, & 2004	1994		2003		2004	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
Total Covered Wages	5,598	\$15,946	6,427	\$21,801	6,420	\$22,869
Agriculture	577	\$14,410	385	\$16,846	368	\$18,903
Mining	0	\$0	*	*	*	*
Construction	239	\$19,901	290	\$26,869	268	\$29,760
Manufacturing	397	\$13,888	244	\$15,332	255	\$21,763
Trade, Utilities, & Transportation	941	\$15,954	1,205	\$20,169	1,223	\$21,818
Information	55	\$20,031	77	\$28,236	85	\$32,752
Financial Activities	186	\$16,470	247	\$34,797	255	\$33,171
Professional and Business Services	226	\$17,884	294	\$22,136	306	\$24,205
Educational and Health Services	184	\$16,053	413	\$20,206	431	\$22,423
Leisure and Hospitality	537	\$8,015	635	\$9,182	660	\$9,772
Other Services	149	\$11,396	181	\$15,632	183	\$15,227
Government	2,104	\$18,245	2,456	\$25,859	2,386	\$26,035

Per Capita Income	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Elmore County	\$16,501	\$17,743	\$17,904	\$18,264	\$19,198	\$20,142	\$20,906	\$22,205	\$22,828	\$24,499
State of Idaho	\$18,707	\$19,426	\$20,248	\$20,648	\$21,789	\$22,786	\$24,075	\$25,185	\$25,330	\$26,877
United States	\$22,172	\$23,076	\$24,175	\$25,334	\$26,883	\$27,939	\$29,845	\$30,575	\$30,804	\$31,472

Information provided by U.S. Census Bureau



This county is served by the office listed below:
Idaho Commerce & Labor
1993 East 8th North
Mountain Home, ID 83647-0160 Ph: (208) 364-7788

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